रेल मंत्री (श्री राम विलास पासवान): (क) और (ख) जी हां रेल किराया एवं माल भाड़ा समिति (1993) ने इस पहलू की जांच की है रोडवेज को तरजीह देने के मुख्य कारण हैं:—

1. अधिक बारम्बारता के कारण सड़क परिवहन कम दूरी के यात्रियों के लिए, अधिक उपयुक्त है।

2. रोडवेज कुल मिलाकर यात्रा स्थल तक लम्बी दूरी में यात्री द्वारा यात्रा किए बिना स्थल दर स्थल सेवा प्रदान करती है। बहरहाल लंबी दूरी की यात्रा के लिए रेल परिवहन वरीयता वाला साधन है।

Laying of additional track between Mumbai CST and Thane

2006. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer to the Unstarred Question No. 800 given in the Rajya Sabha on 29th November, 1996 and state;

(a) whether Government have received the Engineering feasibility study report in respect of laying additional track between Mumbai-CST and Thane from M/s RITES;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the construction work is likely to be undertaken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Inclusion of the project in the Railway Plan depends on outcome of study report, availability of funds and clearance by the Government.

Appointment of Bishop as Chairman, Railway Recruitment Board

2007. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that a Bishop of the Evangelical Church of Tamil Nadu has been apointed as Chairman, Railway Recruitment Board;

(b) whether Government have plans to appoint Purohits and Maulvis to similar posts;

(b) if so, by when; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d) Shri Manuel Ezra Sargunam whose bio data shows him to be the President of Evangelical Church of India has been appointed as Chairman, Railway Recruitment Board, Madras, on adhoc basis. There is no proposal under consideration for appointment of any person as Chairman of any Railway Recruitment Boards on the basis of being a Purohit or a Maulvi, as only the persons fulfilling the eligibility criteria, viz. being serving/ retired officials of the Central (including Railways)/State Governments, ex-MPs and men of repute, e.g. educationists, lawyers, etc. within the age group of 45 to 62 years are considered for such appointments on regular basis by selection through UPSC or keeping the exigencies of service in view, on adhoc basis.

Abstention from work by South Central Railway employees

2008. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news report in the "Deccan Chronicle" (Hyderabad - Late City edition), dated the 26th June, 1997 entitled "Wilful abstentions derail South Central Railway", highlighting that a large number of employees of the South Central Railway abstain from work but yet manage to be technically present in the official register and collect their salaries; and

(b) if so, the details of the modus operandi adopted by the employees and the action taken/proposed to be taken on the enquiry conducted, if any?